

Project Proposal

Proposal Title: Antimony Creek Fence

Proposal Number: 1431

DWR Region: Southern Region

Lead Agency: USFS

County: Garfield

Project Manager: Lisa Young

PM Phone: 4358656113

Regional Priority: Within Focus Area

Project Type: Terrestrial Habitat

Proposed Start Date: 8/1/2009

Project Location: Antimony Creek, 1.5 miles northwest of Dry Lake

Project Description: Replace existing non-functioning enclosure fence along Antimony Creek.

Description of Problem/Need: Livestock grazing in the riparian area has caused stream bank erosion and a reduction in forage quality and quantity. The project area contains numerous spring complexes. The wetland and spring complexes are compacted. The retention of open wet meadow has been identified as a desired condition for elk and other wildlife species. This area provides the best foraging habitat in the area and consequently livestock settle in this riparian area.

In 2006, RMEF contributed \$8,000 towards the installation of a new fence that tied into an existing allotment fence, creating a 43 acre enclosure. The purpose of the fence was to exclude livestock. Since the installation of that fence, livestock have put pressure on the existing fence, rendering the enclosure ineffective. The old fence needs to be replaced in order to make this enclosure effective.

The replacement of this fence is vital to the overall success of other actions implemented in this project area. Other actions completed include:

1. Approximately 1.45 miles of duplicate roads were decommissioned.
2. Road approaches to Antimony Creek were sloped, grade, reduced, and surfaced with geotextile filter fabric, aggregate, and concrete water bar reinforcements to stabilize banks and soil along the crossing.
3. Conifer trees were girdled or cut within the enclosure to reduce competition with willow and other riparian vegetation, increase snag numbers, and improve fishery habitat.

Objectives:

- 1) Improve forage quality and quantity on elk calving, turkey brood-rearing, and crucial summer range for deer, elk, and turkey.
- 2) Obtain a diverse age class distribution of willows.
- 3) Retain wet meadow areas.
- 4) Manipulate livestock distribution in order to reduce utilization within the riparian area.

Relevance to Strategic Plans: Wet Meadow habitat is identified within the Wildlife Action Plan as one of the top ten key habitats. As discussed in the plan, wet meadow habitats are very rare in Utah with many on the decline. Conservation actions implemented through project activities include the restoration of degraded habitats to more natural conditions and monitoring wet meadow habitats. In addition to the restoration of this habitat through project work, photo points have been designated for long-term monitoring as well as permanent green-line transects which are monitored yearly. The enclosure also includes wetland and flowing-water habitat. The conservation actions discussed for wet meadow habitats apply to the wetland habitat. The proposed enclosure as well as other project activities already implemented will restore the degraded stream and reduce sediment.

Potential Risks: None identified.

Proposed Methods: This contracting will be done through a service item in a stewardship contract.

Removal of approximately 4012 feet of old existing fence line.

Construct approximately 686 feet of three-pole wooden fence. There is 1 16-foot removable panel gate on the pole fence and 1 live stream crossing. The terrain is moderate with the exception of one 100' steep incline on the pole fence portion and very rocky in numerous areas. Most of the fence line is not accessible by vehicle.

Construct approximately 3326 feet of 4-strand wire fence. There is one 12 foot 4 strand wire gate, 2 Cedar Post End Panels, 4 Cedar Post Stress Panel, 1 Cedar Post Corner Panel, and 2 Drainage crossings. The terrain is moderate and very rocky in numerous areas. Most of the fence line is not accessible by vehicle.

Shapefile Name: S:/DWR/HPD-2010/GIS Shape Files/1431.shp

Seed Source:

UPCD Reg Team Coord Date:

Proposed NEPA Action:

Proposed Arch Action:

Monday, March 16, 2009 1:11:08 PM

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☒ **Vegetation Monitoring** ☐ **Wildlife Monitoring**

Monitoring Information: Photo point monitoring will be conducted to determine changes in vegetation and willow growth. Permanent green-line transects have also been established in the area and will continue to be monitored concurrently.

Grazing Management:

SPECIES BENEFITING

Mule Deer	Elk	Rio Grande Wild Turkey	Rainbow Trout
Common Gartersnake	Bald Eagle		

LAND OWNERSHIP

Owner	Acres
USFS	43
Total	43

PROPOSED FUNDING

Source	Amount Requested	Date Approved	Amount Approved
USFS	\$7,500.00		\$7,500.00
Unfunded Balance	\$7,500.00		\$0.00
Totals	\$15,000.00		\$7,500.00

PROPOSED BUDGET

Item	Description	DWR Account	Partner Contrib.
Materials and Supplies	Fence Materials	\$0.00	\$5,000.00
Contractual Services	Fencing Contract	\$7,500.00	\$2,500.00
	Totals	\$7,500.00	\$7,500.00

Project Map:

